# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_\_ no

Property Name: Smith Farm (Jefferson Vie	w Farm) Inventory Number: F-2-111	
Address: 3630 Jefferson Pike	City: Jefferson Zip Code: 21755	
County: Frederick	USGS Topographic Map: Point of Rocks, MD and VA	
Owner: Jefferson Valley, LLC	Is the property being evaluated a district?y	res
Tax Parcel Number: 120 Tax Map Numb	er: 84 Tax Account ID Number: 315780	
Project:	Agency:	
	yes Name: Date:	
Is the property located within a historic district		
If the property is within a district	District Inventory Number:	
NR-listed districtyes Eligible distr	ictYes District Name:	
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing	resourceYesno Non-contributing but eligible in another context	
If the property is not within a district (or the p	roperty is a district)	
Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible	Yes X no	
Criteria:ABCD  Documentation on the property/district is present	Considerations:ABC_D_EFG_X_No	one
Description of Property and Eligibility Deter	mination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)	
structures. Main features include a ca. 1840 constructed primarily during the 1950s and 1 three silos constructed during the 1960s and poured-concrete cistern also are located on the Jefferson Pike, which terminates in a small glocated in front (south) of the dwelling. Over	passing 136.83 acres. The 3.5-acre farm lot consists of fifteen buildings and dwelling; outbuildings, including implement sheds and storage buildings 960s; a ca. 1870 bank barn and attached calf shed; a ca. 1960 loafing shed; and 970s. A ca. 1970 house trailer, a concrete pad, a ca. 1960s feeding trough, and e property. The farm is accessed by a 0.3-mile, unpaved, single-lane drive from assed lawn located between the dwelling and the bank barn. Mature trees are grown vegetation is found along the dwelling's foundation. An in-ground poods are located north and west of the bank barn. Mowed lawn and harvested field Jefferson Pike.	da m
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST RE Eligibility recommended Eligi Criteria:ABCD  Comments:  Reviewer, Office of Preservation  Reviewer, NR Program	Considerations:A_B_C_D_E_F_G_No	ne

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## **Building Descriptions**

## **Domestic Buildings**

**Dwelling** 

The two-story dwelling, constructed between 1835 and 1852, consists of a central block with integral ell. The building faces south and occupies an L-shaped footprint. The five bay-by-two bay brick building rests on a stone foundation that has been parged with poured concrete and terminates in a side gable roof sheathed in a standing-seam metal. The brick veneer face is laid in running bond with a soldier course marking the intersection with the concrete foundation. The bricks are unusually large, ranging in size from ten inches to thirteen inches. According to Mr. Smith, the previous property owner, the brick veneer was applied to the building's original, structural brick approximately forty years ago to address spalling of the original exterior walls.

The building originally had a corbelled cornice. The later brick veneer obscured the cornice, giving the cornice a convex appearance. Interior gable-end brick chimneys are found at the east and west gable ends. A brick, interior center chimney is located in the ell. The majority of the windows are six-over-six-light, double-hung, wood-sash units. Vinyl replacement shutters define the windows. Soldier course brick lintels and lug sills define the window openings. The main entrance is centered in the south elevation.

A three-bay half-width porch characterizes the principal (south) elevation. Wood, chamfered columns support the porch's flat roof. The porch rests on a parged concrete foundation. Porch railings include Gothic Revival stylistic characteristics. The central entrance consists of a single, six-panel wood door flanked by six-light sidelights; a four-light transom is located above the door. Two, six-over-six-light windows flank each side of the entrance. Five, six-over-six-light windows are located on the second floor and correspond to the first floor structural bays.

The east elevation is two bays. Tie bars are located between the first and second floor windows and between the first floor and the foundation. Basement access is provided by a partially below grade wood door located at the south end of the east elevation. Two, four-light, fixed-sash wood windows flank the chimney in the gable end. One, six-over-six-light wood window is found at the second floor of the principal block's north elevation. Two windows are found on the second floor of the ell's east elevation. A third opening found near the junction of the ell and the principal block is enclosed in wood. An enclosed porch defines the first floor of the north elevation of the principal block and the east elevation of the ell. The porch terminates in a shed roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. All windows in the porch consist of six-over-six light, double-hung, wood windows; vinyl siding is located below the windows. A two-light vinyl door located at the ell's north end provides access to the porch. According to the former property owner, the porch was enclosed between 1932 and 1966.

One, four-light, fixed-sash wood window is located in the gable end of the dwelling's north elevation. The dwelling's north elevation incorporates a formerly free-standing meat house that was connected to the dwelling. No interior access between the meat house and the dwelling exists. The meat house rests on a parged concrete foundation and terminates in a side gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. A center brick chimney pierces the roof of the meat house. The same brick veneer applied to the dwelling also was used on the meat house. A wood plank door located on the east elevation of the meat house provides access to the building. Vents are located in the gable end of the north elevation. A small addition was constructed on the west elevation of the meat house. A two-light, aluminum awning window characterizes this elevation.

The dwelling's west elevation is four bays, two bays are found in the ell and two bays are found on the principal block. Two, four-light fixed-sash wood windows flank the chimney in the gable end. A wood-frame enclosed porch defines the ell's first floor. The porch is clad in vinyl siding and terminates in a shallow shed roof sheathed in metal. A ribbon of three-light, aluminum casement windows characterize the north, west, and south elevations of the porch. An off-center, two-panel, three-light wood door provides access to the porch. According to Mr. Smith, the former property owner, the enclosed porch replaced a patio during the 1960s.

The interior plan of the principal block of the dwelling is a center hall plan flanked by two parlors. The ell contains the dining room and kitchen. Each room on the first floor has a fireplace with mantel; the firebox of each was enclosed in brick. Interior ornamentation suggests a transition between the Neoclassical and Greek Revival styles. Windows are deeply recessed in the wall and are defined by panels on the side and below each window. Decorative molding with bull's eye corner blocks define

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most door openings. A fireplace originally was located in the kitchen and opened into the dining room. The firebox was enclosed approximately fifty years ago. Drop ceilings were installed in some rooms including the hall and the parlor located to the left of the hall. The back staircase located in the kitchen and leads to a second floor bedroom has been blocked. According to the former property owner, the interior plaster was applied directly over the brick walls. Six-panel wood doors are located at most entrances. A half-turn stair with ramped hand rail leads to the second floor. Round balusters support the balustrade. Alterations also have occurred on the second floor including the enclosure in brick of the firebox in one bedroom, the removal of a wall in the master bedroom, and the replastering of the bedroom off the master bedroom.

A double-wide trailer also is located on the property. The trailer has been present for the past thirty years.

## Outbuildings

Many of the outbuildings were constructed during the 1940s and 1950s, with a few constructed during the 1960s and 1970s.

## Wash House

The wash house was constructed during the late 1940s and early 1950s. The rusticated concrete-block building occupies a rectangular plan. The one-story building rests on a poured-concrete foundation and terminates in a side gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. An exterior brick chimney is located in the gable end of the east elevation. Asphalt shingles are found in the gable ends. Openings are located on each elevation. Windows consist of paired, twelve-light, fixed sash wood windows located on the south, west, and north elevations. One, six-light, fixed sash wood window is located in the gable end of the west elevation. On the east elevation, a window opening is present in the gable end; the lights are missing from the sash. Two doors are found on the building; one each on the north and south elevation. A four-light, three-panel wood door is located on the south elevation; two of the lights are missing from the door. A four-light, five-panel wood door is found on the north elevation. Originally housing laundry facilities, toilet facilities were added when the nearby swimming pool was constructed.

## Large-equipment Shed

The large-equipment shed was constructed during the late 1950s. The single-story building occupies a rectangular plan and faces east. The side-gable roof is sheathed in box-seam, prefabricated metal panels. The four-bay metal-frame building is clad in box-seam, prefabricated metal panels. The metal posts supporting the building rest on poured-concrete piers. The east elevation is not enclosed. No doors or windows are present on the building.

#### Small Storage Shed

The single-story, wood-frame building occupies a rectangular plan and rests on a poured-concrete foundation. The building faces north and terminates in a flat roof sheathed in prefabricated, box-seam metal panels. The building is clad in wood, beaded board. A plywood door is located in the north elevation. Windows are found on the east and west elevations. A two-over-two-light, double-hung, wood-sash window is centered in the east elevation. The west elevation has a six-light, fixed-sash wood window. The sash was coming out of the window frame. Openings on the south elevation were not visible due to overgrown shrubs and bushes. The building abuts, but is not attached to the adjacent equipment shed.

## Equipment Shed 1

The single-story equipment shed occupies a rectangular plan. Constructed during the late 1940s to early 1950s, the building rests on a poured-concrete foundation and terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. The wood-frame building is clad in asphalt shingles over vertical wood plank siding. The original siding is visible on the north, east, and west elevations. The three-bay south elevation is defined by wood, beaded board, hinged doors. The doors in the central bay are no longer present.

#### Garage

The one-story, rusticated, concrete-block building occupies a square plan and faces south. The building was constructed ca. 1950. The building rests on a poured-concrete foundation and terminates in a hip roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. Windows consist of six-over-six-light, double-hung, wood-sash units. One window is centered in the east, north, and west elevations. Flat arches and slip sills define the window openings. Two overhead garage doors are centered in the south elevation. The building was expanded on the front by approximately three feet to accommodate modern automobiles. The addition is clad in cement-fiberboard siding. The addition's shed roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

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#### Shop

The shop, which was constructed during the early 1970s, occupies a rectangular plan and faces south. The single-story building rests on a poured-concrete foundation and terminates in a flat roof sheathed in pre-fabricated, box-seam metal panels. The metal-frame building is clad in prefabricated, box-seam metal panels. Openings are located on the south and east elevations. An overhead, metal garage door, a metal passage door, and a one-light, aluminum, horizontal sliding window define the south elevation. An overhead, metal garage door is located in the north end of the east elevation and a metal passage door is located at the south end of the east elevation. No other openings are present on the building.

# Equipment Shed 2

The concrete-block equipment shed was constructed during the late 1940s. The building occupies a rectangular plan and terminates in a shed roof sheathed in corrugated metal. The building faces south and rests on a poured-concrete foundation. Wood, beaded-board, sliding track doors are located on the south elevation. A metal window is located at the eastern end of the south elevation and is covered by a sliding track door. The window type and configuration were not visible. An interior door opening is located on the building's east elevation. The door opening is covered in plywood and leads to a small room, access to which was not possible. A beaded board, sliding track door leads from the room to a shed roofed addition. Square, wood posts support the addition's roof. Roofing materials consist of corrugated metal. The north end of the addition is enclosed in vertical, wood board siding. Equipment shed 2 abuts but is not attached to the shop.

### Equipment Shed 3

The concrete-block equipment shed occupies a rectangular plan and faces south. The building was constructed during the late 1940s. The building terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. A shallow projecting eave extends over the building plane on the south and north elevations. Openings consist of sliding track wood doors and four-light, fixed, metal-sash windows. Concrete, slip sills define the window openings. Two sliding track, beaded board wood doors are located in the east end of the south elevation. A four-light, fixed, metal sash window is located adjacent to the sliding track doors. Two beaded-board, sliding track wood doors are centered in the west elevation. Two, four-light windows are located in the north elevation; the window opening in the west bay is covered in plywood. One, four-light window is located in the east elevation; the two lower lights are missing.

#### Bank Barn and Attached Calf Shed

The ca. 1870 wood-frame bank barn rests on a fieldstone foundation. The barn terminates in a gable roof sheathed in corrugated metal and ornamented with snow geese. The exterior walls are clad with vertical wood siding. The bank (north) elevation features a central sliding wood door. The west elevation contains four ventilation openings surrounded by decorative wood frames and hoods and filled with wooden louvers. Three similar openings are located in the gable; the central opening is larger than the flanking openings.

On the south elevation, a forebay projects over the ground level of the barn; this level opens onto a poured-concrete paddock area. The exterior walls of the ground level are clad with horizontal wood siding and horizontal beaded board. The upper level of the south elevation features five louvered openings, similar to those on the west elevation, and two sliding wood doors. Nine-light and four-light fixed windows illuminate the ground level, which accommodates stalls. Five door openings with hinged vertical-wood sections on the bottom and open tops also are located on the ground level of the south elevation. The west end of the south elevation contains an opening for paired doors, but only one wood door is present.

The gable of the east elevation features three louvered ventilation openings in the same style and arrangement as those in the west gable. A shed-roof, two-story addition constructed in the 1950s extends from the east elevation. The addition rests on a concrete-block foundation and is clad with vertical wood siding. The shed roof is sheathed in standing-seam metal. The addition features three hinged vertical-wood doors, one sliding wood door, nine-light fixed windows, and window openings covered with plywood.

The interior of the bank barn has a central threshing floor on the upper level; the threshing floor is flanked by hay mows. The barn was constructed with circular-sawn framing and mortise-and-tenon joinery. The barn features a wood floor and a common rafter roof. The lower level contains animal stalls. Hand-hewn floor joists are visible.

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A concrete-block calf shed constructed during the 1970s is attached to the bank barn on the east elevation. The shed terminates in a gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. The east gable is clad with standing-seam metal siding. The north elevation contains four window openings filled with fiberglass. The south elevation of the shed remains open; wood posts support the roof. The interior of the shed accommodates calf stalls and has a poured-concrete floor.

#### Loafing Shed

A concrete-block loafing shed constructed during the early 1960s is located southwest of the bank barn. The gable roof is sheathed in standing-seam metal. The gables are clad with standing-seam metal siding. Windows openings are covered with plywood. The east elevation remains open; the roof is supported by poles. The interior of the loafing shed has a poured-concrete floor. A small enclosure with two concrete-block walls and an open east side is located on the north elevation of the loafing shed. The enclosure has a collapsed flat roof sheathed in standing-seam metal.

#### Concrete Pad

A poured-concrete pad enclosed by three-foot walls is located south of the loafing shed. The pad is connected to the poured-concrete paddock area south of the bank barn. The floor surface of the pad slopes downward to the south.

## Silos, Feeding Trough, and Cistern

Three silos are located south of the calf-shed section of the bank barn. All of the silos are constructed of tongue-and-groove interlocking concrete panels secured by horizontal steel bands that encircle the structures. Silo 1 and Silo 2 were built during the early 1960s and feature metal domes. A wood and concrete feeding trough is attached to Silo 1 and extends to the southwest. The trough is sheltered by a gable roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. A small poured-concrete cistern is located south of the feeding trough. Silo 3 was constructed in the early 1970s and is capped with a flat, plastic covering with curved edges.

# **National Register Eligibility**

#### **Historic Overview**

The property is located on the outskirts of Jefferson, Maryland, just west of the center of the town. Jefferson was founded in 1832 when two villages, New Town (originally known as Trappe) and New Freedom, were combined (Reed 1993; Ballentine 1974:7). The area around Jefferson was first settled by the English, many of whom were land speculators (Reed 1993). Large farms that produced small grain crops were established by the Germans (Reed 1993). Jefferson was located on the Jefferson Turnpike. A trolley line was established during the early twentieth century to link Jefferson to the City of Frederick.

#### Thematic Context: Maryland Piedmont Farmhouse

The mid-nineteenth century vernacular regional house type, the Maryland Piedmont farmhouse, is generally associated with farmsteads of the period of the Smith Farm. The basic form consisted of a two-story dwelling with integral ell. Generally, the facade was three, four, or five bays and the dwelling terminated in a gable roof. Gable-end interior chimneys at one or both gables of the main block were common, with a gable-end chimney commonly located in the ell's gable end (Getty 1987:94). A double-tiered porch located on the inner side of the ell was a character-defining feature (Getty 1987:94).

In plan, the dwelling could occupy a T- or L-shaped footprint. A central hall with main staircase was common, with a parlor on one side of the hall and a living room or dining room on the opposite side (Getty 1987:84). The kitchen typically was located in the ell. Bedrooms were located on the second floor, and the unfinished attic was used for storage (Getty 1987:94).

Thematic Context: Regional Agricultural Practices during the Eighteenth, Nineteenth, and Twentieth Centuries

Small grain and livestock farming proved prosperous for Frederick County farmers during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Reed 1993). Livestock and cattle production grew during the nineteenth century due to the presence of rich grasslands, although the raising of livestock accounted for a small percentage of farm operations during the period (Reed 1993; Grandine 2001).

Several factors impacted the county's agriculture industry; predominate among them were the advances in transportation, specifically, high speed rail transportation (Peeler 2003). Other factors influencing the agriculture industry included the diversification of crops, which was a result of the post-Civil War agricultural depression. The scale of farming was impacted

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by scientific and mechanized farming. Grain production in Frederick County continued during the late nineteenth century, despite the shift in wheat cultivation from the region to the Western and Mid-Western United States (Peeler 2003; Lanier and Herman 1997:178-179).

The bank barn, a well-established agricultural building type by the 1830s, became increasingly popular in the Mid-Atlantic region. Bank barns incorporated into a single building almost all of a farm's storage, processing, animal shelter, and other related functions. One side of the barn was built into an earthen embankment for ease of entry. A forebay projected over the ground level of the building; this level typically contained animal stalls and opened onto a paddock area. Frame bank barns featured a post-and-rail construction system and vertical siding on the exterior walls (Dixon and Peeler 2005).

The early twentieth century witnessed the growth of the dairy industry in Frederick County. By the 1930s, the modern dairy barn supplanted the bank barn (Grandine and Cleven 2000). Population increases resulted in an increased demand for agricultural products, especially dairy products (Peeler 2003). The modern dairy barn reflected regulatory changes introduced during the early twentieth century that required the sterilization of milk. The dairy barn represents the trend towards more hygienic diary processing. Designs for dairy barns that used smooth surfaces and building materials that could be easily cleaned were promoted. Twentieth-century materials including concrete floors, glass bricks, steel tubing, sliding doors, iron window and door frames, and steel trusses were common (Peeler 2003; Lanier and Herman 1997:184). Changing agricultural practices resulted in Frederick County becoming one of the largest dairy producers in the state by the late twentieth century (Peeler 2003). By 2002, 195,827 acres of Frederick County land were engaged in agriculture (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners n.d.a). By the early twenty-first century, the county had 161 dairy farms making it the number one producer of milk in the state (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners n.d.a).

The prevalence of dairy farming made the use of silos for the storage of livestock feed a necessity. Silos excluded air and water, creating a semi-moist atmosphere for the preservation of green fodder crops—a process known as ensilage. Silos enabled farmers to efficiently accommodate large numbers of dairy cows. Furthermore, cows fed on green fodder were able to produce milk throughout the entire year, including the winter season. At the end of the nineteenth century, wooden stave silos began to appear. Beginning in the 1920s, silos evolved from wooden structures to those built of masonry, poured concrete, or tile block. After 1945, newly developed materials and techniques resulted in more efficient silo construction (Lanier and Herman 1997:211-214). Silos of tongue-and-groove interlocking concrete panels secured by steel bands became increasingly popular.

## Property History

The Smith Farm is located on land resurveyed on 23 September 1786 under the name Daniel's Diligence (Frederick County Land Records HGO 1/139). This 394-acre tract, owned by planter James Hook, whose family came from England, comprised 281 acres of Wells Invention, 67 acres of Thrashers Chance, and 46 acres of a vacant parcel (Tracey and Dern 1987:64). Wells Invention was a 2,017-acre tract patented in 1753 by planter Robert Lamar; James Hook purchased 300 acres in 1764 (Frederick County Land Records J/213). The 178-acre Thrashers Chance was patented in 1763 by Thomas Thrasher, a Welsh farmer who emigrated to America by 1745; Thomas Thrasher sold 78 acres to James Hook in 1765 (Williams and McKinsey 2003:879; Frederick County Land Records J/1273).

When Daniel's Diligence was resurveyed by James Hook in 1786, improvements on 20 cleared acres included a log dwelling house, a log corn house, 100 young apple trees, 30 cherry trees, and 2,000 old fence rails (Frederick County Land Records HGO 1/139). In 1789, James Hook conveyed Daniel's Diligence to his son Daniel Hook, who retained ownership for ten years (Frederick County Land Records WR 8/742). A tax assessment from 1798 recorded Daniel Hook's ownership of Daniel's Diligence, but no house or buildings were listed (Frederick County Assessment Records 1798, District 9:148). Daniel Hook sold the property to William Johnson for \$7,880 on Christmas day in 1799 (Frederick County Land Records WR 19/222). The 1808 Varle Map of Frederick and Washington Counties did not depict a dwelling at the location of the present-day Smith Farm. However, the residence of W. Johnson was depicted south of Jefferson, suggesting that William Johnson's land may have extended southeast of the Smith Farm and that William's dwelling was not located on the present-day Smith property.

Oral tradition suggested that the property was part of the vast landholdings of Maryland governor Thomas Johnson. According to archival research, William Johnson does not appear to be a direct descendent of the former Maryland governor. At the time of his death in 1811, William Johnson lived on Daniel's Diligence and owned 17 slaves (Frederick County Wills RB 1/233).

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His farm accommodated horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs. William and his wife, Catharine, had three sons who were not yet of age, Thomas, Richard, and William Cost. According to William's will, Catharine and her sons were to remain on the farm until the sons reached age 21; at that time each son would receive his portion of slaves. Thomas inherited 197 acres of Daniel's Diligence; the present-day Smith Farm is located on this property. Richard inherited the remaining 197 acres and at age 21 was to receive funds to construct necessary buildings on his land. In 1835, Richard sold 20 of his acres to brother Thomas for \$730 (Frederick County Land Records HS 2/53). William Cost Johnson inherited 235 acres in Jefferson County, Virginia. As stipulated by his father's will, this land was to be rented. As an adult, William Cost Johnson became active in politics; he served as a U. S. congressman and was a candidate for Maryland governor (Williams and McKinsey 2003:333). In 1857, William Cost developed property in St. Mary's County and constructed the Point Lookout hotel and summer cottages, which he leased to important national figures, including Supreme Court Justice Roger Taney (Grandine et al. 2004:8.8).

Thomas Johnson owned the present-day Smith Farm for several decades. A tax assessment in 1825 recorded Thomas Johnson's ownership of Daniel's Diligence, but no house or buildings were listed (Frederick County Assessment Records 1825, District 3). Tax records from 1835 listed a chopping mill and a clover machine on the property, but no dwellings or buildings (Frederick County Assessment Records 1835, District 14:176).

The 1850 U.S. census recorded Thomas Johnson as a 49-year-old, Maryland-born farmer with real estate valued at \$18,000. His wife, Catharine, born in New York, was 39 years old. Other members of the Johnson family included farmer Edwin, age 23; farmer F.R.A., age 21; Elenor C., age 19; Jane E.C., age 16; Wyndham, age 8, Frances L., age 6; Thomas A., age 12, and Catharine V., age 4. Thomas Johnson owned two male slaves and three female slaves. His agricultural property comprised 215 improved acres of land and 40 unimproved acres. Livestock included 7 horses, 7 milch cows, 4 other cattle, and 80 swine. Crops included 1,500 bushels of Indian corn, 1,000 bushels of wheat, and 50 bushels of Irish potatoes; corn and wheat were the most abundant crops in Frederick County. Thomas' property also produced 250 pounds of butter, 15 tons of hay, and 1 bushel of clover seed. (Hitzelberger and Dern 1978:13-14; 479; 501; 548-549).

A tax assessment in 1852 recorded Thomas Johnson as owner of 205 acres of Daniel's Diligence valued at \$50 per acre (Frederick County Assessment Records 1852, District 5:23). The 1852 assessment was the first to record a brick dwelling on the property, suggesting that the present-day house was constructed between 1835 (the date of the previous known assessment) and 1852. The dwelling was depicted as the residence of "Colonel" T. Johnson on the 1858 Bond Map of Frederick County, Maryland the 1873 Lake Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland.

By 1860, Thomas Johnson's wealth had increased dramatically. The 1860 U.S. agricultural census recorded Thomas Johnson as owner of 575 acres of Frederick County farmland valued at \$25,000, the highest valuation in the Jefferson District. His largest crop was 1,500 bushels of Indian corn, followed by 1,000 bushels of wheat. His property also produced oats, Irish potatoes, orchard products, butter, hay, and honey. The 1860 U.S. population census recorded the total value of Thomas' real estate as \$50,000; his personal estate was worth \$18,000.

A tax assessment in 1866 recorded Thomas Johnson as the owner of 200 acres of Daniel's Diligence valued at \$90 per acre (Frederick County Assessment Records 1866, District 14). A brick house and an old barn stood on the property. The assessment record also listed Thomas as owner of two other improved farms and a 22-acre parcel of mountain land. The value of his Frederick County land totaled \$42,650. The addition of his personal property brought Thomas' total assessment to \$44,700, the highest in the Jefferson District.

Thomas Johnson retained his wealth. In 1870, he possessed real estate valued at \$45,000 and a personal estate of \$6,000 (U.S. Population Census 1870). His Frederick County farmland was valued at \$20,000, and Indian corn and wheat remained his largest crops (U.S. Agricultural Census 1870). The residence of Colonel T. Johnson was depicted on the 1873 Lake *Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland*.

Tax records from 1876 recorded two improved farms under the ownership of Thomas Johnson (Frederick County Assessors Field Book 1876, District 14). The present-day Smith Farm contained 170 acres of land valued at \$50 per acre. Improvements were assessed at \$1,700 and included a brick house, a frame barn, and a frame corn house and wagon shed. The frame barn, which is likely the present-day bank barn, apparently replaced the old log barn formerly on the property. Tax records suggest

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that this frame barn was constructed between 1866, when the old barn was still standing, and 1876. In addition to the present-day Smith Farm, Thomas Johnson owned a 240-acre farm near Catoctin Switch.

Thomas Johnson continued to farm until at least 1880 (U.S. Agricultural Census 1880). His 190 acres primarily yielded Indian corn and wheat. Thomas Johnson died in 1886; his estate inventory of personal property was valued at \$1,670.70 (Frederick County Inventory JPP 4/639). Thomas' will bequeathed some of his personal belongings to family members (Frederick County Wills JPP 2/297). These belongings included a library of law books, pamphlets, and Bibles; various family portraits; a collection of animal horns; and, a rifle and sword. In addition to his two farms and mountain lot, Thomas owned land near the Point Lookout Hotel, built by his brother William Cost, and several Point Lookout cottages. In his will, Thomas ordered that his farms be sold. His 165-acre "home farm," the present-day Smith Farm, was sold in 1888 to John P. Heffner for \$9,875.25 (Frederick County Land Records WIP 6/202).

The Heffner family retained ownership of the 164-acre present-day Smith Farm until it was sold at public auction in 1932 to Homer L. and Ethel Smith (Frederick County Land Records 382/315). At that time, the farm was described as containing "a 10-room brick dwelling house, large bank barn, and other adequate outbuildings, supplied with water by spring and well, the land of which is in excellent state of cultivation, fertile, and is practically all tillable" (Frederick County Equity Case 12402). After more than thirty years of farming, Homer and Ethel Smith conveyed the property to their son, Charles C. Smith, and his wife, Jane, in 1966 (Frederick County Land Records 743/551). In addition to his role as dairy farmer, Charles C. Smith served three terms on the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners from 1978 to 1990 (Smith, personal communication, 2005; Frederick County Board of County Commissioners, n.d.b:22-23). Charles Smith stopped farming in 1978 when operations were turned over to his sons. Milking stopped altogether in 1994. The former gambrel roof dairy barn, originally located south of Silos 1 and 2, burned ca. 2003 (Smith, personal communication, 2005; Ballentine 1974:99). In March 2003, Charles and Jane Smith sold the farm to Jefferson Valley, LLC, the current owner (Frederick County Land Records 3614/0098).

#### **Evaluation**

Architectural and archival data were analyzed applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60 [a-d]). This analysis assessed both the significance and integrity of the Smith Farm. Criteria A and C of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation were identified as the most appropriate to the evaluation of the buildings and structures contained in the Smith Farm. The farm was in agricultural operation during the Johnson and Smith ownerships from 1799 to 1994 during a period of transition in Frederick County agriculture from wheat to dairy farming. The complex was therefore assessed for potential associations with this broad pattern of agricultural history in Frederick County (Criterion A). In addition, the buildings and structures were assessed individually and collectively for the distinctive characteristics that embody a type, period, or method of construction associated with agricultural complexes from the period and as a potential distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Research did not identify important associations with persons significant in the past (Criterion B). No subsurface testing was undertaken as part of the architectural assessment (Criterion D).

The surviving buildings and structures in the farm lot of the Smith Farm are associated with three major periods of construction. These are ca. 1840-1870, ca. 1950, and ca. 1960. The earliest buildings on the site, the main house and bank barn, have been modified over time. The farmhouse at the Smith farm has many of the characteristics of a Maryland Piedmont farmhouse; in addition, interior ornamentation reflects the Neoclassical and Greek Revival styles. The two-story brick building has a five-bay facade. Interior-end gable chimneys are located in both gable ends. A single-story porch, which currently is enclosed, is located in the interior side of the ell. The L-shaped plan consists of a center hall with main staircase and one parlor flanking each side of the hall. The kitchen and dining space are located in the ell.

While the main house is consistent in overall form with the design of regional rural dwellings of the period, changes over time have impacted the dwelling's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. The original brick of the house was resurfaced ca. 1960 using brick veneer of a different bond and brick size. The original cornice of the dwelling, an important character-defining feature, was removed or obscured during this refacing. Additions and modifications to the original ell, such as porch enclosures, have obscured its original design. While remnants of the original plan and interior finishes survive, ceilings have been lowered, interior partitions removed, and fireboxes closed. Although the bank barn survives, this building has been modified to include a concrete-block calf shed.

The second-period dairy barn, a characteristic element on the farm that successfully met the sterile requirements of milk pasteurization, was removed from the complex in 2003. The majority of the surviving domestic and agricultural outbuildings are associated with the mid- to- late-twentieth century operation of the dairy farm and include concrete block, poured concrete, and prefabricated metal buildings and structures.

While the Smith Farm is recognizable as a farm complex, the collection of buildings and structures does not reflect the dominant pattern of local agricultural history in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries through its surviving buildings. In addition, changes to the earliest buildings, the main dwelling and bank barn, have compromised their integrity. These buildings do not embody the range of character-defining characteristics associated with their building type, period or method of construction. The Smith Farm does not possess the integrity or significance necessary of listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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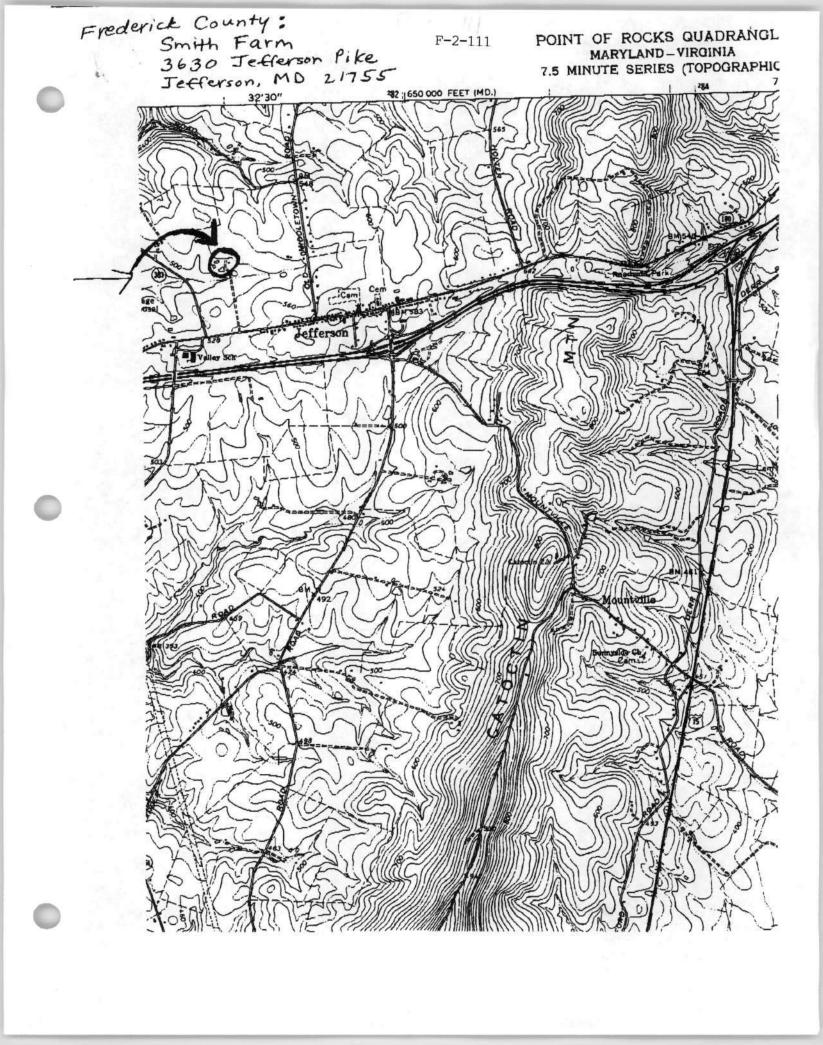
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Continuation Sheet No. 10

F-2-111

# Photo Log

- 1. Setting, looking north
- 2. Dwelling, south elevation
- 3. Dwelling, east elevation
- 4. Dwelling, east elevation, ell & enclosed porch
- 5. Dwelling, north elevation
- 6. Dwelling, west elevation
- 7. Dwelling, staircase
- 8. Dwelling, mantel, parlor 1
- 9. Wash house, north elevation looking southeast
- 10. Large equipment shed, east elevation looking west
- 11. Equipment shed 1, south elevation looking northeast
- Garage and shop, looking west
- 13. Equipment sheds 3 and 2, looking northeast
- 14. Bank barn & silos 1 and 2, north elevation looking south
- 15. Loafing shed, bank barn, feeding trough, and silos 1, 2 and 3, south elevation looking north

Kirsten Peeler, Project Manager and Kathryn Dixon, Historic Preservation Specialist R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.

Associates, Inc.
241 East Fourth Street

Prepared by: Frederick, Maryland 21701

Date Prepared: 28 November 2005



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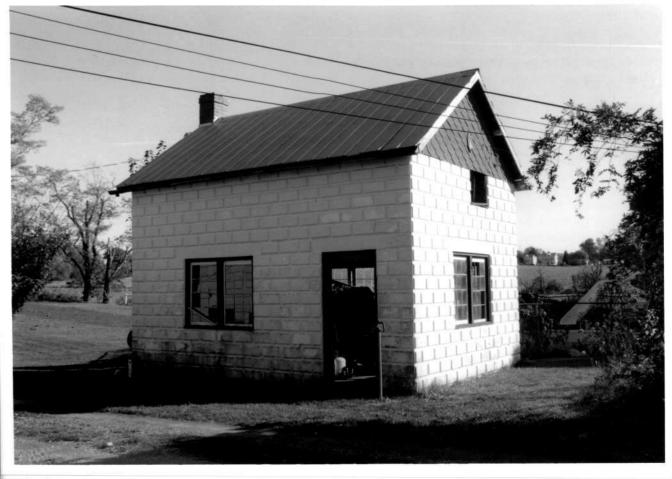
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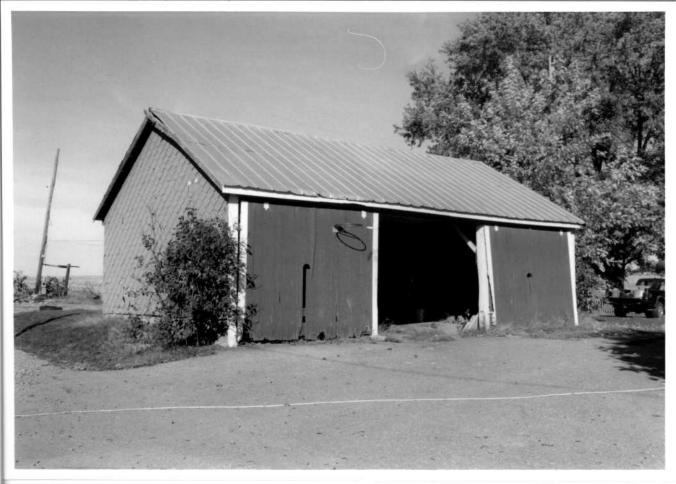
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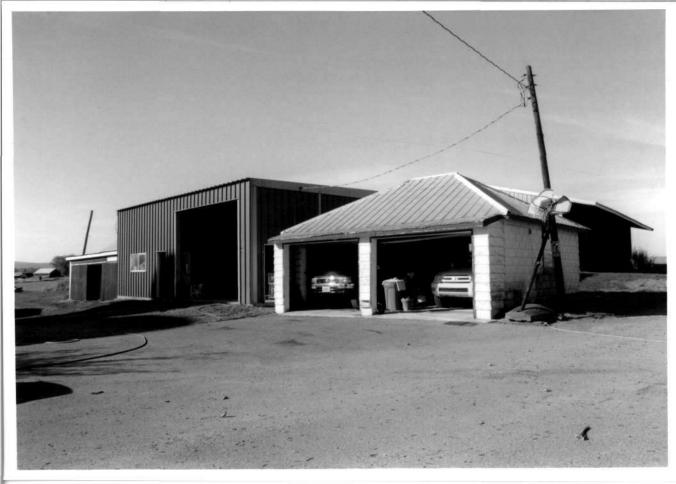
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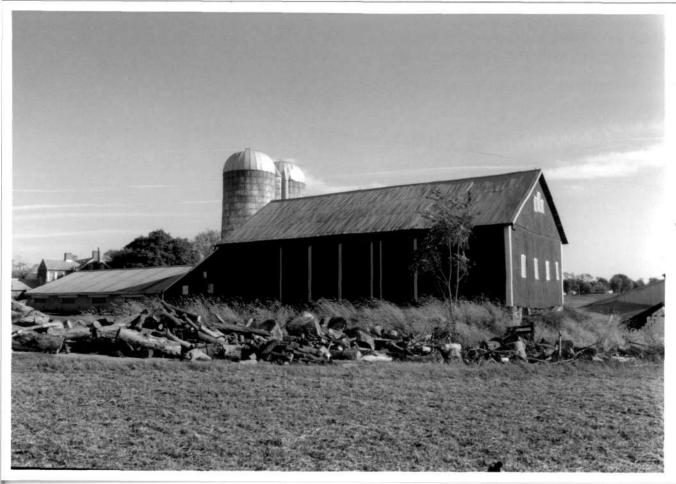
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F-E-111 SMITH FARM FRATERICL COUNTY, MARYLAND K. Piziek HOUS WOH MO SHOW WAFING SHED, BAMU BARN, FEEDING TROUGH AND SILVS 1,2+5 - MORTH ELECTROPH LIGHTING S 15 05 19